

**LAND STEWARDSHIP COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**  
**JULY 5, 2006, 4:00 P.M.**  
**ACTON TOWN HALL**

Present: Bob Guba, Gigi Hopkins, Philip Keyes, Peggy Liversidge (minute-taker), Nan Millett, Rich Rhode, Jim Snyder-Grant (chair)

Minutes approval: The minutes of the June 7 meeting were approved.

Parcel updates:

*Grassy Pond:* Bob reported that he has bought lumber for and constructed 120 feet of stringers for the boardwalk; he has also bought 30 pounds of nails and has an order in for 60 feet of decking. With those expenditures, plus earlier purchases of a sickle and a grass whip, all but \$52 of the 2006 budget was used up. He will be using \$306 of 2007 funds for the first 60 feet of decking (mentioned above), and an additional 60 feet of decking will be ordered later to complete the 120 feet of new boardwalk scheduled for this year. He also said that he hopes to carry some of the stringers from the Newtown Rd. entrance to the current building area this Saturday morning (7/8). On another item, Bob reported that he found the Grassy Pond viewing deck to have sunk several inches at one end, and he has leveled it again (this is not the first time this has happened).

*Jenks:* Jim has done some grass-whipping and rose trimming along the Jenks trails.

*Robbins Mill Pond:* Philip reported that, while canoeing on Nashoba Brook, he noted that the water intake pipe he had reported on a while ago is still there, despite the fact that he initiated the process to have the Conservation Commission send a letter. He wondered whether he needs to resubmit the report. Jim said he will check on its status.

*Stonemyeade:* Concerning the trail mowing, Bob has mowed part of the trail and someone from the Stonemyeade Stable has mowed the portion from their barn/fenceline, so most of the trail system is now done. However, Nan wants to try to clarify the situation concerning mowing; she has a call in to someone at the stable but has not yet talked with anyone. Concerning the abutters who have been extending their yard mowing onto what we think is conservation land, Jim said that Tom has again spoken with them, but it appears that the town will need to get that boundary line surveyed since the abutters say they don't think they are encroaching. (Earlier the abutters had said that they would do a survey, but they have not followed through.)

Machinery for mowing conservation lands: There was some discussion of mowers. Jim has spoken with Tom and found that the town has a field mower (pushed but with a power drive) that could be made available to us, perhaps by having a town truck deliver it to specified locations and pick it up later in the day. Gigi said that both she and Ann are interested in being able to help with mowing. Jim suggested that they might get together to take a look at this mower (which Jim hasn't seen either) to see whether it looks like a machine that Gigi and Ann would be comfortable learning to operate. A weed-whacker or a regular mower were also suggested as possibilities.

Summer picnic: Next Monday, July 10, was tentatively chosen as the date for our summer picnic (which will be in honor of Cyril's contributions to the committee). Because that is the date Linda will be coming back from Seattle, Philip said we could meet at his house instead of Linda's. However, we also realized that we weren't sure that Linda would be back in time to attend on Monday, so we may decide on another date. As in the past, the event will be a potluck.

Fall lecture: Gigi has been in touch with Lydia Rogers, and they have set the fall lecture date for Wednesday, October 25 (which will not conflict with a Conservation Commission meeting). She will get a title for the talk, reserve the library meeting room, and pass the information along to Philip for (eventual) publicity.

Next meeting: Bob requested that we have a monthly meeting in August. The date chosen was **Wednesday, August 2, at 4:00.**

